

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 4 to 14, 17, 23 to 30 and 32 as shown below.

The claims, as currently pending in the application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing an additional service to a called party having a subscription user that subscribes to a communication company's communication service, the method comprising:

billing a calling party for a call from the calling party to the called party,
wherein the call is received by the called party through an exchange of the communication company; and accumulating a communication time of each call from a calling party the user receives through the communication service of the communication company, and

providing an additional service to the called party based on a user in accordance with the accumulated communication time of the received call, and in accordance with the subscription, wherein the calling party of each call, not the user who receives the call, is charged for the call.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the additional service is a discount of a communication charge of outgoing calls made by the called party using the communication company's communication service, to be paid by the user who is not charged for the call, the discount calculated in accordance with the communication time.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the communication company provides the additional service in accordance with the communication time and the amount of communication.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

accumulating communication times of calls received by the called party through an exchange of the communication company, wherein the communication company provides the additional service in accordance with an accumulated communication time of received calls, and in accordance with the subscription the length of time the calling party uses the communication services of the communication company.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the communication company provides the additional service is further based on whether or not in accordance with (i) a communication time for which the calling party uses the communication services of the communication company to make the call to the called party and (ii) a communication time for which the calling party does not use the communication services of the communication company.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4 [[1]], wherein the communication company provides the additional service in accordance with (i) [[a]] an accumulated communication time of calls received by the called party from calling parties using for which the calling party uses the communication services of the communication company and (ii) [[a]] an accumulated communication time of calls

received by the called party from calling parties whether or not the calling parties used not related to the communication services of the communication company used by the calling party.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of providing an additional service to a called party having a subscription user that subscribes to a communication company's communication service, the method comprising:

billing a calling party for a call from the calling party to the called party,
wherein the call is received by the called party through an exchange of the communication company, and accumulating a communication amount of each call from a calling party the user receives through the communication service of the communication company, and

providing the additional service to the called party based on an user in accordance with the accumulated amount of communication of the received call, and in accordance with the subscription, wherein the calling party of each call, not the user who receives the call, is charged for the call.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein the additional service is a discount of a communication charge of outgoing calls made by the called party using the communication company's communication service, to be paid by the user who is not charged for the call, the discount calculated in accordance with the amount of communication.

9. (Currently Amended) An additional-service providing apparatus used by a communication company that provides communication services, comprising:

informing means for informing a called party user, who subscribes to the communication services of the communication company, of a call sent to the called party user;

an accumulation means for accumulating a time of communication of each call from a calling party the called party user receives through the communication services of the communication company, the calling party of each call, not the called party informed of the call, being charged for the call; and

providing means for providing at least one additional service to the called party user in accordance with the accumulated time of communication, wherein the calling party of each call, not the user informed of the call, is charged for the call.

10. (Currently Amended) An additional-service providing apparatus used by a communication company that provides communication services, comprising:

sending means for sending a call to a called party user who subscribes to the communication services of the communication company;

an accumulation means for accumulating an amount of communication of each call from a calling party sent to the called party user through the communication services of the communication company, the calling party of each call, not the called party the call is sent to, being charged for the call; and

providing means for providing at least one additional service to the called party user in accordance with the accumulated amount of communication, wherein the calling party of each call, not the user the call is sent to, is charged for the call.

11. (Currently Amended) Computer-executable program instructions loadable into the internal memory of a digital computer, comprising program code portions for performing the steps of:

measuring a communication time of a call from a calling party to a called party user through a communication service of a communication company to which the called party user subscribes, wherein the calling party of the call, not the called party who receives the call, is charged for the call;

accumulating the measured communication time of each call from a calling party to the called party user; and

providing an additional service to the called party user according to the accumulated measured communication time, wherein the calling party of each call, not the user who receives the call, is charged for the call.

12. (Currently Amended) Computer-executable program instructions loadable into the internal memory of a digital computer, comprising program code portions for performing the steps of:

measuring the communication amount of a call from a calling party to a called party user through a communication service of a communication company to which the called party user subscribes, wherein the calling party of the call, not the called party who receives the call, is charged for the call; and

accumulating the measured communication amount of each call from a calling party to the called party user; and

providing an additional service to the called party user according to the accumulated measured communication amount, wherein the calling party of each call, not the user who receives the call, is charged for the call.

13. (Currently Amended) A communication system comprising an accumulator for accumulating at least one of a communication time and an amount of communication of each call from a calling party received by a called party through a communication service of the communication system to which the called party subscribes, wherein the calling party of each call, not the called party, is charged for the call, and

wherein an additional service is provided to the called party according to the value of the accumulator, and wherein the calling party of each call, not the called party, is charged for the call.

14. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 13, further comprising a discount calculator for calculating a discount on a communication charge to be paid by the called party a user to a communication company.

15. (Previously Presented) A communication system in which a called party is connected to a first exchange and a calling party is connected to a second exchange, the system comprising:

a third exchange for determining whether said first exchange and said second exchange are operated by the same communication company to which the called party and the calling party subscribe, and

wherein at least one additional service is provided to the called party according to the determination made by said third exchange, and wherein the calling party, not the called party, is charged for a call to the called party, and wherein the additional service is provided according to the communication time or the communication amount of the call provided to the called party through said first exchange.

16. (Previously Presented) A communication system according to Claim 15, further comprising a fourth exchange for selecting one of a plurality of communication companies for connecting the called party according to (i) a system requirement in each of the plurality of communication companies, (ii) a condition required by the calling party, and (iii) a condition required by the called party when the plurality of communication companies provide communication services for the called party.

17. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to Claim 16, wherein the fourth exchange comprises setting means for setting the required conditions,

wherein the called party a subscriber makes a call to a predetermined phone number to access said setting means.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of measuring the communication time.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of measuring the amount of communication.

20. (Original) The additional service providing apparatus of Claim 9, further comprising time measuring means for measuring a communication time of the call.

21. (Original) The additional service providing apparatus of Claim 10, further comprising time measuring means for measuring an amount of communication during the call.

22. (Original) The communication system of Claim 14, further comprising a charge calculator for calculating a communication charge in accordance with a value held by said accumulator.

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the called party user receives the call via a radio line of one of a plurality of communication companies.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein another communication company provides a communication service to the calling party, and the called party user and the calling party are connected through a first exchange of the communication company and a second exchange of said another communication company.

25. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 7, wherein the called party user receives the call via a radio line of one of a plurality of communication companies.

26. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 7, wherein another communication company provides a communication service to the calling party, and the called party user and the calling party are connected through a first exchange of the communication company and a second exchange of said another communication company.

27. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said informing means informs the called party user of the call via a radio line of one of a plurality of communication companies.

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein another communication company provides a communication service to the calling party, and the called party user and the calling party are connected through a first exchange of the communication company and a second exchange of said another communication company.

29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein said informing means informs the called party user of the call via a radio line of one of a plurality of communication companies.

30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein another communication company provides a communication service to the calling party, and the called party user and the calling party are connected through a first exchange of the communication company and a second exchange of said another communication company.

31. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 13, wherein the called party receives the call via a radio line of one of a plurality of communication companies.

32. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 13, wherein a first communication company provides a communication service to the calling party, a second communication company provides a communication service to the called party, and the called party user and the calling party are connected through a first exchange of the first communication company and a second exchange of the second communication company.

33. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 15, wherein the called party receives the call via a radio line of one of a plurality of communication companies.